

country; he contracts a partiality for aristocracy or monarchy; he forms foreign friendships which will never be useful to him, and loses the seasons of life for forming in his own country those friendships which of all others, are the most faithful and permanent; he is led by the strongest of all human passions into a spirit for female intrigue, destructive of his own and others' happiness, or a passion for whores, destructive of his health, and in both cases, learns to consider fidelity to* the marriage bed as an ungentlemanly practice and inconsistent with happiness; he recollects the voluptuary dress and acts of the European women, and pities and despises the chaste affections and simplicity of those of his own country; he retains through life a fond recollection and a hankering after those places which were the scenes of his first pleasures and of his first connections; he returns to his own country a foreigner, unacquainted with the practices of domestic economy necessary to preserve him from ruin, speaking and writing his native tongue as a foreigner and therefore unqualified to obtain those distinctions which eloquence of the pen and tongue ensures in a free country; for I would observe to you that what is called style in writing or speaking is formed very early in life, while the imagination is warm and impressions are permanent. I am of the opinion that there never was an instance of a man's writing or speaking his native tongue with eloquence who passed from fifteen to twenty years of age out of the country where it was spoken. Then no instance exists of a person writing two languages perfectly. That will always appear to be his native language which was most familiar to him in his youth. It appears to me, then, that an American coming to Europe for education loses in his knowledge, in his morals, in his health, in his habits and in his happiness. (To J. Banister, 1785. C. I., 467.)

EDUCATION.—If all the sovereigns of Europe were to set themselves to work to emancipate the minds of their subjects from their present ignorance and prejudices, and that as zealously as they now endeavor to the contrary, a thousand years would not place them on that high ground on which our common people are now setting out. Ours could not have been so fairly